

Tiverton Street Advisory Committee
Minutes of Meeting
March 19, 2014

Chairman Michael Normandin called the Tiverton Street Advisory Committee meeting to order at 7:02pm on March 19, 2014 at the Tiverton Town Hall.

1.ROLL CALL

Mr. Normandin, Ms. Eva, and Ms. Gloddy were present.

Mr. Hart and Mr. O'Dell were absent.

Also present were newly appointed Town Administrator Matthew Wojcik and ex-officio members Ms. Chabot and Mr. Berlucchi. Town Councilman James Arruda was also seated in audience.

2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Ms. Gloddy asked Mr. Wojcik for his input and/or direction for the Street Advisory Committee.

Mr. Wojcik advised the committee that they should look at statistics of the streets. For example: how many residents are affected, the number of buildable lots, etc.

Ms. Eva discussed and handed out a copy of existing standards for unaccepted streets from the Town's Zoning Code (Article VI – Other District Regulations, Section 8 – Unaccepted Streets and Appendix - Construction Specifications from the Land Development and Subdivision Regulations). She noted that this ordinance had been created by the Planning Board because of the problems with unaccepted streets.

Ms. Eva also asked Mr. Berlucchi about his estimates that he had given to the Town Council in his recent memorandum, and whether or not the estimates included drainage or if it was just replacing existing road. Mr. Berlucchi replied that it was just replacing what already existed. Mr. Berlucchi stated Councilman Jay Lambert had been inquiring about roads.

Mr. Berlucchi stated people are under misconceptions about roads.

Ms. Chabot stated we need definitions from the Town Solicitor, so we have in writing what each street is. She also stated that each street should be labeled by a sign and marked clearly as to what its status is.

Ms. Eva explained that the Planning Board accepts a subdivision plan, but streets never officially get accepted until the Town Council formally accepts them into the Town's road system.

Ms. Chabot stated when accepting the plans the roads are being accepted as private and no homeowner's associations are being set up for maintenance.

Ms. Gloddy stated a lot of the roads were constructed over 50 years ago, and it was not right to go back on these people. The "Standards for Unaccepted Streets" section of the ordinance was put in place in 2001, says it does not apply to roads constructed prior to this ordinance.

Ms. Gloddy stated the ordinances also say that no trash pick-up, snow plowing, etc. on streets that are unaccepted and many of these roads have these services and have had them for years.

Ms. Gloddy felt there should be a file set up in Town Hall for the research that we do along with the status of the streets, this way there is documentation for our findings.

Mr. Berlucchi stated people should call DPW with questions on street status, he can tell them what the streets are getting for service.

Ms. Gloddy believes the roads that have been maintained for 20 plus years the Town should have some obligation. Mr. Berlucchi replied that it didn't matter. He stated that Town Solicitor, Andrew Teitz said that it does not matter.

Ms. Chabot indicated that she would like to see Mr. Teitz's opinion in writing.

Town Councilman James Arruda stated that the Town Council had never received anything from Mr. Teitz that was proof that the Town had no obligation. He knows the Town has previously accepted roads that were not up to today's standards.

Ms. Gloddy stated there are numerous roads in North Tiverton that are on the Accepted List and there is no documentation that they were ever accepted.

Mr. Berlucchi stated that those roads are just assumed accepted. A discussion ensued on the 3 ring binder that had been compiled and converted to the Streets Lists.

Ms. Gloddy believes it is not fair that we only have to have documentation for certain streets and other streets there has to be no proof of acceptance we can just say we feel they should be accepted and that's enough for acceptance.

Mr. Berlucchi stated Bolduc's Lane is 10' wide, pot holes, and no turn around. He doesn't want Town trucks on it. Ms. Gloddy stated Bolduc's Lane would be in good shape if we graded it twice a year like we do Lawrence Court. Ms. Eva noted that it had a long history and was private. It had been constructed by a former Town Councilman and not to Town standards.

Mr. Wojcik suggested that the committee not get bound down by ordinances. He believed the committee should look at the physical reality of the streets. Give the Town Council a plan for each road/street over a period of time with the costs associated to bring them up to acceptance. He explained the more people living on the street the greater chance of having to have an emergency vehicle get down it. The committee needs to tell the lawyer what we want, instead of asking what he thinks.

Mr. Wojcik doesn't think we can treat all the streets the same. Try to do the best you can and satisfy the most people.

Ms. Gloddy felt many of the streets do not need drainage, as they have been in existence for many years and have had no issues.

b. LAWRENCE COURT

Residents are happy the way it is, Mr. Wojcik recommended that the committee come up with an agreement that all parties agree on.

Mr. Berlucchi's opinion is: if the Town is spending their money to take care of your road they have a right to be on it.

Ms. Eva noted that there is a lot of traffic that goes in and out of Lawrence Court.

Mr. Wojcik recommended that the committee look at the data that has already been collected.

Ms. Gloddy and Ms. Eva requested a copy of the document/map which showed the portion that was accepted by the Town.

A discussion ensued regarding trash pick-up and other services. If a trash truck can get down the street and turn around then they go down, if not trash is picked up at the top of the street.

Mrs. Chabot noted that the residents had stated that Lawrence Court does have a Homeowners Association set up which is very active.

Mr. Wojcik questioned where the water pipes are for Lawrence Court. Mr. Normandin explained they go across the road underground. Mrs. Gloddy stated the residents did indicate that if there was ever an issue with the pipes the road would have to be dug up.

Ms. Gloddy stated this road would never be able to be brought up to standard's (no apostrophe on standards) since the layout is 20' wide.

Ms. Eva opined that the committee needs to have accurate specifications and it's our job to follow through on them. And any agreements should be in writing.

Ms. Chabot expressed some concern about the water pipes, believed we should know where they are since we are grading the road.

Mr. Berlucchi stated there are no issues with grading.

Mr. Wojcik questioned Mr. Berlucchi about catch basins and paving of Lawrence Court, bottom portion. Mr. Berlucchi stated he would never pave that section because it is private he has \$2.2 million worth of public roads he needs to pave.

Mr. Wojcik again stated that the committee should spell out their recommendations for the Town Council.

Ms. Gloddy questioned Mr. Berlucchi about the cost to grade Lawrence Court twice a year. Mr. Berlucchi stated you don't use a lot of material's, you don't want to build it up. He indicated the cost of a grader was \$1000 per day. Mr. Berlucchi believed the cost would be approximately \$1500-\$2000 per year to fill and grade Lawrence Court, which did not include the accepted portion.

Ms. Eva stated that the committee needed to know how many feet were already accepted by the Town. Mr. Berlucchi stated that he would measure it the next day.

Ms. Gloddy reminded the members that the residents mentioned that they would like to see the accepted portion repaved.

Ms. Eva made a motion to continue the Lawrence Court discussion to the next meeting. Ms. Gloddy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Ms. Gloddy, Ms. Eva, and Mr. Normandin all voting in favor of the motion.

3. MEMBER ITEMS:

Members discussed items they would like to get - definitions from Town Solicitor Andrew Teitz.

A discussion regarding the status of the Homeowners Associations for Winterberry Woods, Daniel T. Church Estates, and Beach Tree Hill ensued after which the committee agreed to include them on the next meeting agenda (April 23rd).

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 19, 2014 MEETING

Mr. Berlucchi requested a change to the minutes.

Ms. Eva made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, Mr. Normandin accepted the motion, the motion passed unanimously with Ms. Gloddy, Ms. Eva, and Mr. Normandin voting in favor of the motions.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Eva made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Gloddy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Ms. Eva, Mr. Normandin, and Ms. Gloddy voting in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:42pm.

Submitted by Audrey Gloddy
Secretary

Date Approved: April 23, 2014